



Attorney Docket No. A062 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

Applicant: Michael Karpusas et al. Art Unit: 1631
Application No.: 09/826,716 Examiner: Michael L. Borin
Filed: April 5, 2001
Title: CRYSTALS OF THE ALPHA 1BETA 1 INTEGRIN I-DOMAIN
AND THEIR USE

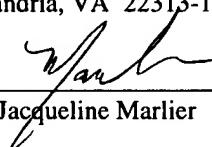
FEB 26 2004

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February 13, 2004

Date


Jacqueline Marlier

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated August 21, 2003 (Paper No. 9). A request for an appropriate extension of time is being filed concurrently herewith.

IN THE CLAIMS

20. (Amended) A method for evaluating the ability of a chemical entity to associate with an I-domain of the $\alpha 1$ chain of the $\alpha 1\beta 1$ integrin or a complex comprising $\alpha 1\beta 1$ integrin or homologs thereof, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) employing computational or experimental means to perform a fitting operation between the chemical entity and said $\alpha 1\beta 1$ integrin or I-domain or complex thereof, thereby obtaining data related to said association; and
- (b) analyzing the data obtained in step a) to determine the characteristics of the association between the chemical entity and said at least a portion of $\alpha 1\beta 1$ integrin or I-domain or complex.